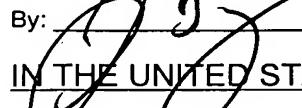




Docket No.: MUH-12666

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

By: 

Date: December 12, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applic. No. : 10/609,456 Confirmation No: 6592
Applicant : Andreas Walter et al.
Filed : June 27, 2003
Art Unit : 1621
Examiner : to be assigned

Docket No. : MUH-12666
Customer No. : 24131

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98 copies of the following patents and/or publications are submitted herewith:

United States Patent No. 6,150,558 (Sezi et al.), dated November 21, 2000 and corresponding European Patent Application EP 0 906 903 A2, dated April 7, 1999;

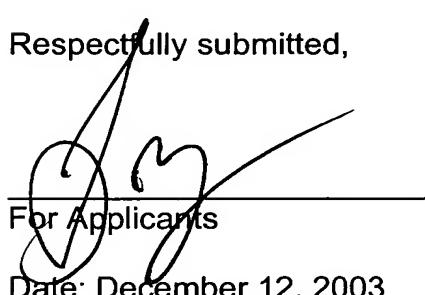
United States Patent Application Publication US 2002/0010370 A1 (Haussmann et al.), dated January 24, 2002, and corresponding European Patent Application EP 1 132 374 A2, dated September 12, 2001;

United States Patent Application Publication US 2003/0060573 A1 (Walter et al.), dated March 27, 2003, and corresponding German Published Non-Prosecuted Patent Application DE 101 36 382 A1, dated February 20, 2003;

European Search Report dated November 12, 2003.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e) the undersigned herewith states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted,

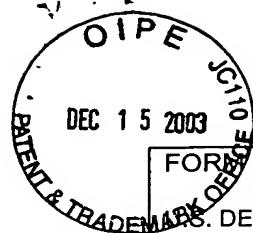

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FORM PTO-1449 (SUBSTITUTE)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEINFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(37 CFR 1.98(b))

Attorney Docket No.: MUH-12666

Applic. No.
10/609,456

Applicant

Andreas Walter et al.

Filing Date
June 27, 2003Group Art Unit
1621

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS | | PATENT NO. | DATE | PATENTEE | CLASS | SUB CLASS | FILING DATE |
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| | A | 6,150,558 | 11/21/00 | Sezi et al. | | | |
| | B | 2002/0010370 A1 | 01/24/02 | Haussmann et al. | | | |
| | C | 2003/0060573 A1 | 03/27/03 | Walter et al. | | | |
| | D | | | | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT

| | | DOCUMENT NO. | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB CLASS | TRANSL. YES NO |
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| | L | 101 36 382 A1 | 02/20/03 | Germany | | | X |
| | M | | | | | | |
| | N | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.